

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 NEA-10 /157 W

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R 211225Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5115

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 5188

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR XF UN SG

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SENEGAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNEF

REF: STATE 228964

1. PRESENT TELEGRAM MOTIVATED BY INFORMATION REFTEL AND ELSEWHERE THAT UN HAS ASKED SENEGAL TO FURNISH BATTALION-SIZED FORCE TO UNEF, AND THAT UN MAY ASK RUSSIANS TO LIFT SENEGALESE.

2. BASED ON VERY DISCREET SOUNDINGS HERE, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT GOS THINKING IN TERMS OF PERHAPS TWO COMPANY FORCE TOTALLING 250 TO 300 MEN. SENEGALESE ARMY BASICALLY CONSISTS OF 3 INFANTRY BATTALIONS OF 800 TO 1000 MAN STRENGTH, OF WHICH ONE IS TRAINING BATTALION. IN ADDITION THERE ARE ONE COMMANDO AND ONE PARACHUTE GROUP RUNNING EACH 350 TO 400 MEN. PRINCIPAL DEPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT IS IN CASMANCE REGION IN SOUTH, ON BORDER WITH PORTUGUESE GUINEA. IN OUR OPINION, ASIDE FROM POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, WE BELIEVE 500 IS MAXIMUM FIGURE GOS COULD REASONABLY SUPPLY.

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3. WE ALSO HAVE INDICATION SENEGALESE THINKING IN

TERMS ASKING FRENCH TO AIRLIFT THEIR FORCE, IF SUCH REQUEST IS NOT ALREADY UNDER STUDY BY FRANCE. DOUBT IF GOS WOULD BE VERY HAPPY AT PROSPECT OF SOVIET AIRLIFT, AND FRENCH MIGHT BE WILLING FURNISH WAY OUT OF THIS DILEMMA.

4. SENEGALESE ARE PLAYING THIS VERY CLOSE TO CHEST, AND IT MAY BE THAT FINAL DECISION NOT YET TAKEN ON UN REQUEST. IN ANY CASE, ABOVE BASED TO SOME EXTENT ON DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH OFFICERS AND ADVISERS HERE, AND WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE ADDRESSEES PROTECTING SOURCE.

5. DATT CONCURS IN ABOVE.
PERKINS

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NNN

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